

House Bill 208

By: Representatives Watson of the 166th, Lindsey of the 54th, Carter of the 175th, Cooper of the 43rd, Pak of the 108th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 7 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to regulation of hospitals and related institutions, so as to require nursing homes to
3 annually offer influenza vaccinations to its health care workers and other employees; to
4 provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Article 1 of Chapter 7 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
8 regulation of hospitals and related institutions, is amended by adding a new Code section to
9 read as follows:

10 "31-7-19.

11 Each nursing home shall annually offer on site to its health care workers and other
12 employees who have direct contact with patients, at no cost, vaccinations for the influenza
13 virus in accordance with the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and
14 Prevention, subject to availability of the vaccine. Each nursing home shall keep on record
15 a signed statement from each such health care worker and employee stating that he or she
16 has been offered vaccination against the influenza virus and has either accepted or declined
17 such vaccination. A nursing home may offer to its health care workers and other
18 employees who have direct contact with patients any other vaccination required or
19 recommended by, and in accordance with the recommendations of, the Centers for Disease
20 Control and Prevention, which may be offered or administered pursuant to standing orders
21 approved by the nursing home's medical staff to ensure the safety of employees, patients,
22 visitors, and contractors."

23 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 2.**

24 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.